Activity

- Distribute balloons, newspaper strips, and pie pans to your students. The pie pans can be shared by two or three students. If doing this activity indoors, you will probably want to spread uncut newspapers on the floor or desks where the students will be working.
- 2. If inflating the balloons themselves, have each student work with a partner. While one student inflates a balloon, the second student should measure the balloon with the ruler. When the balloon reaches the correct size for the egg being modeled, it should be tied off. The students should reverse roles so that each has an opportunity to measure and to inflate a balloon.
- 3. Once each student has an inflated balloon, pour papier-mâché paste into the pie pans. Instruct the students to dip the newspaper strips into the paste and then to run the strips through their fingers to remove excess paste before applying them to their balloons. The entire surface of the balloon should be covered with dipped strips of newspaper. Larger balloons may require more than one layer of papier-mâché to be strong enough when dry.
- 4. Once the balloons are completely covered with papier-mâché, place the model eggs on uncut newspaper in an undisturbed location in the classroom and allow them to dry completely. Before they forget which egg is theirs, have students write their names next to their eggs on the uncut newspaper.
- When the eggs are dry, have the students paint their eggs. Since little is known about the color of dinosaurs or their eggs, let your students' imaginations determine what color(s) to use.

Extensions

Have students imagine what their baby dinosaur would look like if it hatched out of their papier-mâché egg. Instruct them to draw a picture of their baby dinosaur.

Have the students construct a dinosaur nest out of recyclable materials (newspaper, paper towel rolls, etc.) and place their papiermâché eggs in the nest.